

**FARMINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**Tuesday, August 13, 2013**

Chairman Ryan Morgan called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. with the following members present: Andrew Hufnagel, Dennis Pike, Joshua Bell and Jessica Berry. Town Manager Richard Davis, Town Secretary Linda Grant, Chief Jack Peck (6:30-6:50 P.M.), Channel 11, and members of the press and public were also in attendance.

**ITEM 1: Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

Chairman Ryan Morgan led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**ITEM 2: To Consider a Request to Reserve the Meetinghouse Park Gazebo on October 19, 2013 from 8:00 a.m. to Noon for the Annual “Kids Walk for Kids” Charity event (Franklin County Children’s Task Force)**

Richard Davis reviewed a letter of request dated August 1, 2013 from Milissa Cousins, Administrative Assistant of the Franklin County Children’s Task Force.

**Dennis Pike moved to approve the request of the Franklin County Children’s Task Force to reserve the Meetinghouse Park Gazebo on October 19, 2013 from 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon for the annual “Kids Walk for Kids” charity event; Joshua Bell seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 3: To Approve an Application for a License to Operate Beano/Bingo or a Game of Chance at the Farmington Fairgrounds for Johnson Cox Post 78 American Legion of Strong, Maine**

Richard Davis reviewed the application.

**Dennis Pike moved to approve an Application for a License to Operate Beano/Bingo or a Game of Chance at the Farmington Fairgrounds for Johnson Cox Post 78 American Legion of Strong, Maine, with a reminder to be watchful of the player’s age; Andrew Hufnagel seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

The Selectmen signed the application.

**ITEM 4: To Schedule a Special Board of Selectmen’s Meeting for August 20, 2013 to Award the bid for the Whittier Road and Sandy River Bank Stabilization Project**

Richard Davis explained that the project has gone out to bid, with bids due to be opened on Monday, August 19<sup>th</sup>. He apologized for having to schedule a special meeting but since the deadline for completing at least the work on the lower slope is September 30<sup>th</sup> and it is unknown how long the total project will take, the bid needs to be awarded and work begun as soon as possible.

**Andrew Hufnagel moved to schedule a special Board of Selectmen’s meeting for August 20, 2013 at 6:00 P.M. to award the bid for the Whittier Road and Sandy River bank stabilization project; Jessica Berry seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 5: To Consider Scheduling a Special Town Meeting to Request an Appropriation from the Unassigned Fund Balance to Correct the Sewer Drain Problem at the Municipal Building and Amend the Board of Appeals Ordinance**

Richard Davis reviewed the draft Warrant and Municipal Building sewer drain history. At Andrew Hufnagel’s request, Mr. Davis explained that the reason for not putting the sewer drain project out to bid is that Ted Berry Co. Inc. was not able to guarantee that there would not be any further problems beyond one month and it has already been approximately three weeks. He also noted that Wastewater Superintendent Steve Moore was unable to obtain more than one quote for the drain section replacement, that being from E.L. Vining & Son, Inc., which is the contractor that Ted Berry Co. Inc. hires to do their excavation work anyway. Mr. Davis also explained the two other options that have been considered, pointing out that the option to replace the entire section of pipe appears to be considerably more expensive, and he has not received a quote as yet on the “pipe bursting” option. In response to Dennis Pike’s inquiry, Mr. Davis reported that Public Works Director Denis Castonguay will be able to issue the road opening permit because it is within the Urban Compact Zone.

**Dennis Pike moved to approve the Warrant for a Special Town Meeting to be held during the regularly scheduled Selectmen’s meeting on Tuesday, August 27, 2013; Jessica Berry seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

Richard Davis stated that the Special Town Meeting will be held in the downstairs meeting room. The Selectmen signed the Warrant.

**ITEM 6: To Confirm the Employment of Michael Lyman as a Farmington Police Officer**

Chief Jack Peck introduced Michael Lyman and reviewed his background.

**Dennis Pike moved to confirm the employment of Michael Lyman as a Farmington Police Officer; Andrew Hufnagel seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 7: To Consider the Application of Betty Jespersen to Serve on the Budget Committee**

**Dennis Pike moved to appoint Betty Jespersen to a 2014 term vacancy on the Budget Committee; Andrew Hufnagel seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

It was pointed out that there are still numerous vacancies on Boards and Committees, which Town Secretary Linda Grant reviewed. Chairman Morgan urged anyone who might be interested to come in and fill out an application. Mr. Davis stated that there are job descriptions for each Board and Committee available as well.

**ITEM 8: To Approve two (2) Municipal Quitclaim Deeds**

Richard Davis reported that the first Quitclaim Deed is to release any interest the Town may have by virtue of undischarged real estate tax liens in property located at 457 Temple Road belonging to Nancy L. Bryant. The second quitclaim Deed is to release any interest the Town may have by virtue of undischarged sewer liens in property located at 118 Town Farm Road belonging to Robert F. Nichols, II and Rachel A. Nichols.

**Jessica Berry moved to approve the two Municipal Quitclaim Deeds as presented; Andrew Hufnagel seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 9: To Approve two (2) Cemetery Conveyances**

Richard Davis reviewed the two cemetery lot conveyances for Junior E. Turner and Marie C. Turner, and Raymond Orr, Sr.

**Jessica Berry moved to approve the two cemetery lot conveyances as presented; Joshua Bell seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 10: To Approve the Minutes of July 23, 2013**

**Jessica Berry moved to approve the minutes of July 23, 2013; Ryan Morgan seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 11: To Discuss Other Business**

- A)** Richard Davis reported that the Lac-Megantic Relief Fund now totals \$25,100. Ryan Morgan reviewed the call he received today from a Lac-Megantic city engineer on the status of the cleanup efforts. Dennis Pike pointed out that the Canadian equivalent of the U.S. Department of Transportation suspended the license for the offending railroad to operate within the country of Canada. Mr. Davis reported that a message regarding the Relief Fund has been placed on the Town's signboard.
- B)** Joshua Bell asked for an update on the Business Brochure. Richard Davis stated that Cindy Gelinis has been doing a lot of work on the brochure and he estimates that it is 50% complete. He pointed out that Mrs. Gelinis has also been working diligently on the application for the Certified Business Friendly Program, which has a deadline of September 6<sup>th</sup>, so once that is complete she will be able to focus more on the brochure. In response to Mr. Bell's inquiry as to whether it would be possible for a one-page brochure to be placed in newspapers, Mr. Davis stated that that is the plan. He also stated that the Website committee is working with the chosen vendor, providing him with ideas and options on the website, and the projected launch date of the new website is sometime in November.
- C)** Joshua Bell asked for an update on the sewer rate hookup information. Richard Davis stated that Sewer Clerk Mavis Gensel is on vacation but he will ask her if the sewer survey information is available upon her return. The Selectmen asked for this to be an item on the Selectmen's August 27<sup>th</sup> agenda.
- D)** Joshua Bell asked for an update on the volunteer work at the courthouse cemetery, which Richard Davis provided.

**ITEM 12: To Hold an Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S. § 405.6.A. to Discuss the Employment of a Wastewater Superintendent**

**Jessica Berry moved to go into Executive Session at 7:03 P.M.; Dennis Pike seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 12: To Hold an Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S. § 405.6.A. to Discuss the Employment of a Wastewater Superintendent (Cont.)**

Lewiston Sun Journal reporter Ann Bryant asked if the Selectmen will be voting to hire a superintendent tonight. Richard Davis stated that an offer could possibly be made tonight but with probable negotiations, so a vote will not be taken until a candidate accepts the position.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:05 P.M.

**Dennis Pike moved to authorize the Town Manager to negotiate with the top candidate for the Wastewater Superintendent position within the parameters established for said position; Jessica Berry seconded.**

**VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

There being no further business to come before the Board, **Dennis Pike moved to adjourn at 8:06 P.M.; Joshua Bell seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Linda H. Grant.

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Dennis C. Pike - Secretary